

# THE DESOTO COUNTY NEWS.

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The News is the Official Paper of the Board of Public Instruction of DeSoto County; also Publishes All the County Commissioners Reports and Proceedings

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN

Smith, of Clay County, Addresses Letter to County Executive Committee Anent the Recent Resolution. Urges Them to Provide Ways for Committeemen to Attend a Called Meeting of the State Committee.

Mr. J. S. Smith, member of the state executive committee, Clay county, has addressed the following sensible letter to the county democratic executive committee of Florida: "Green Cove Springs, Fla., Jan. 25, 1916. "To the County Democratic Executive Committee of Florida: "As there is a state-wide demand for another meeting of the state democratic executive committee to rescind the 'Sturkie' resolution, which on its face is capable of two interpretations of itself should be repealed, and as there are many committeemen who do not feel financially able to attend another meeting, therefore for the best interests of the democrats of this state, I hereby call upon you to provide ways and means for your committeemen to attend said meeting of the state democratic executive committee.

Democracy will not sustain measures which are capable of being construed one way in Hillsborough and another in Duval. We want it so plain that no one can err therein, and so free from restrictions that any one who will support the nominees and swear he is a democrat will not feel unwelcome in our ranks.

We want qualifications that do not require a technical lawyer to construe, and qualifications over which lawyers cannot squabble. Qualifications such as an ordinary, every day democrat can himself define. We want plain, old fashioned democracy. Do not delegate your sovereign rights to a campaign committee, nor leave the qualification of a democrat so vague as that changing chairmen can construe at their pleasure and will.

Until the 'Sturkie resolution' is rescinded or amended do not ratify the qualification as placed on us by the 'Sturkie resolution.'

Help repeal article four and the first clause of article 5, and democracy will again have what is hers by right and by principle.

Very truly,  
J. S. SMITH,  
Member State Democratic Executive Committee, Clay County.

## INTERESTING ARTICLE WRITTEN

On Several Important Topics By Marshall Dancy, Chairman New Enterprise Committee of the DeSoto County High School.

When one looks for new enterprises in DeSoto county, one doesn't have to look far to see that Natal grass is the most promising industry that has been started in the last few years.

It is important, because it is richer than timothy; three or more crops may be cut from this special grass in a year; it is permanent in Florida, although possibly there may be exceptions in the extreme northern part of the state, but in south Florida it is permanent. As it produces seed it scatters them, but it does not become a pest, for if one should want to get rid of it, all that is necessary is not to let it go to seed. Next season the crop of Natal hay will be rather slim, and the second season will be the end entirely.

Natal hay is richer than timothy, and can be raised in the sandiest soil in Florida. Truly, the farmer who buys hay needs a guardian.

Then if the farmer is progressive, as most farmers are, he will want to see the fair made a success. The part he can play is, to raise good crops and make his produce the best. This will be the commencement of rivalry.

## A JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

For Myakka City Before the Beginning of Another School Term in the Fall. Other Valuable Improvements in the Little City Less Than One Year Old.

Myakka City, the beginning of which was less than one year ago at the opening of the East and West Coast Railway, between this city and Bradentown, is rapidly making progress, and is justly entitled to the slogan that has been adopted by the citizens, viz: "Progress."

The attendance in the public schools of the city has already become so large that a committee recently appeared before the county board of education to ask for an assistant teacher.

The board of education not only granted this request, but later assured the committee that it had decided to build before the beginning of the September term a five room junior high school building.

A desirable site has also been selected on which to build the new Baptist church. A beautiful building will be erected at an early date. We are glad to note this spirit of progress in the little city, so admirably located midway between Arcadia and Bradentown, and surrounded by a section of country that insures a continuous, substantial growth.

## FLORIDA LIVE STOCK

As Compiled by the Bureau of Crop Estimates, United States Department of Agriculture.

Washington, Jan. 26.—A summary of estimates of numbers and values of live stock on farms and ranges on January 1 for Florida and for the United States, compiled by the bureau of crop estimates (and transmitted through the weather bureau), United States department of agriculture, is as follows:

**Horses.**  
State: Number, 59,000, compared with 57,000 a year ago and 49,000 five years ago. Value per head, \$112, compared with \$121 a year ago and \$113 five years ago.

United States: Number, 21,200,000, compared with 21,195,000 a year ago and 20,277,000 five years ago. Value per head, \$101.60, compared with \$103 a year ago, and \$111.46 five years ago.

**Mules.**  
State: Number 29,000, compared with 28,000 a year ago, and 24,000 five years ago. Value per head \$154, as compared with \$163 a year ago and \$161 five years ago.

United States: Number 4,560,000, compared with 4,479,000 a year ago, and 4,323,000 five years ago. Value per head \$113.87, compared with \$112 a year ago, and \$125.93 five years ago.

**Milk Cows.**  
State: Number 136,000, compared with 133,000 a year ago, and 118,000 five years ago. Value per head, \$40, compared with \$42.50 a year ago, and \$35 five years ago.

United States: Number 22,000,000, compared with 21,262,000 a year ago, and 20,823,000 five years ago. Value per head, \$53.90, compared with \$55 a year ago and \$59.97 five years ago.

**Swine.**  
State: Number 996,000, compared with 949,000 a year ago, and 967,000 five years ago. Value per head \$6, compared with \$6 a year ago and \$4.60 five years ago.

United States: Number 68,000,000, compared with 64,618,000 a year ago and 65,820,000 five years ago. Value per head \$8.40, compared with \$9.87 a year ago and \$9.37 five years ago.

Miss Florence Ley, a popular young lady of Fort Meade, arrived in Arcadia this morning. While here she will be the guest of Miss Irma McBride. Miss Ley lived in this city for three years, and during that time she made a host of friends here who are always glad to welcome her back.

## PROGRAM DE SOTO COUNTY FAIR

### OPENING TOMORROW AT 9 A. M.

Thursday, Jan. 27th.

9 a. m. Fair gate opens.  
1:15 p. m. Governor Trammell, escorted by reception committee, Capt. George M. Lynch, chairman; T. B. King, Mayor A. P. Hollingsworth, A. C. Freeman, W. G. Welles, R. F. Lewis, C. D. Boring, A. L. Durance, E. T. Smith, Judge F. A. Whitney, with military escort over city to fair grounds.

2 p. m. Grand opening of fair. Arrival of Governor Trammell announced by military salute with big guns; governor opens fair gates, and delivers address from grand stand inside fair grounds.

4 p. m. Capt. Atwood "sliding for life;" exhibition of wonderful educated horse.

9 p. m. Grand fireworks inside the grounds.

9:30 p. m. Capt. Atwood sliding for life; fireworks.

Friday, Jan. 28—School Day.

9 a. m. Gates open; judging in all departments commences; placing of ribbons.

2 p. m. Dr. A. P. Murphree, president State University, will deliver address from grand stand inside fair grounds.

4 p. m. Baby show; babies will as-

semble on east side of main exhibition building inside fair grounds.

4:30 p. m. Capt. Atwood sliding for life; educated horse.

9 p. m. Grand fireworks inside the grounds; sliding for life, educated horse.

Saturday, Jan. 29th.

9 a. m. Fair gates open; awards in baby show to be announced from grand stand.

2 p. m. Payment of premiums begins from grand stand.

4 p. m. Capt. Atwood sliding for life; educated horse.

Ladies' rest room upstairs over Owens' Cafe. Entrance on Oak Street; also rest room at The Arcade, on West Oak street.

Men's wash room at court house.

Admission to the Grounds.

Season adult tickets, 50 cents.

Season school age tickets, 30 cents.

Day admission, adults, 25 cents.

Day admission, school age, 15 cents.

In addition to the three buildings of county exhibits to which no charge is made, except the above, the DeSoto County Fair Association has arranged for a fine aggregation of attractions to which reasonable entrance fee will be charged. Not a dull moment. Three days of joy and merry making.

## BRADENTOWN CITIZENS COMING TO THE FAIR IN LARGE NUMBERS

Bradentown Evening Journal Says "Land of Manatee Folks Have Opportunity to Visit Sister Arcadia, on East and West Coast Special."

The East and West Coast Railway is carrying in the Bradentown Evening Journal a well worded half page advertisement calling attention to the many attractions at the DeSoto County Fair to be held in this city three days, beginning tomorrow. This progressive road is offering a special rate of \$1.25 for the round trip, and that these special inducements are bearing fruit may be found in the following article clipped from the Evening Journal:

"Numbers of Bradentown residents and residents from other parts of the county will attend the DeSoto County Fair at Arcadia, which is to be held on next Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

## BIG SUIT INVOLVING THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS BEING TRIED BEFORE JUDGE A. F. WHITNEY THIS WEEK

Many Leading Attorneys of This and Other States Here. The Case is a Very Complicated One, Some Phases of the Questions Involved Having Gone to the Supreme Court of the United States.

A suit involving a sum of money variously estimated at from a few hundreds of thousands of dollars to several millions of dollars, is being tried before Judge F. A. Whitney, of the tenth judicial district. The case was called yesterday, and will probably continue during the remainder of the week.

The suit was filed by the Port Tampa Phosphate Company, operating in Polk county, and the defendants to the suit are Joseph Hull and the Para Pebble Phosphate Company. The Port Tampa Phosphate Company has been adjudged a bankrupt in the state of Massachusetts, and the question now involved is whether Joseph Hull now owns the property, the Para

Pebble Phosphate Company, or the Port Tampa Phosphate Company, under a general sale. The case is a very complicated and drawn out one, the matter of bankruptcy having gone to the supreme court of the United States from the state of Massachusetts, and besides several phases of the questions involved have gone before the federal district court of this state.

The following prominent lawyers are here looking after the interests of their various clients:

E. R. Glenn, Tampa.  
Bisbee and Bidell, of Jacksonville.  
Burr and Stinson, of Boston, Mass.  
E. R. Gunby, Atlanta, Ga.  
Tom Wilson, of the firm of Wilson & Swearingen, Bartow.

## BOARD OF DEACONS OF BAPTIST CHURCH.

A joint meeting of the board of deacons and advisory board of the First Baptist church was held last night in the Sunday school room, which proved most pleasant and profitable. The meeting was well attended, all the departments of church and Sunday school work being represented. At the close of the service the Ladies' Aid Society served delightful refreshments, which were appreciated and enjoyed by all present.

Mrs. H. M. Hampton, who has been visiting her father, Rev. H. E. Carlton, has sufficiently recovered from sickness to be able to travel, and so she left this morning for her home in Ocala. Mr. Hampton, her husband, came down Sunday and left with their two children for Ocala. Mrs. Hampton and children went through the country in his automobile.

M. M. Archard left this morning for Wauchula, on a short business trip.

## PRESIDENT WILSON

His Undesirable That Their Actions are Unmindful of all else but their own selfish aggrandizement. Party principles and good of entry are secondary to their coveted poses. Hence the imperative need action, on the part of a party, to to it that the spirit of the constitution should be lived up to, while endeavoring to provide for the best administration, possible, under that situation.

Dixie was first and foremost, we believe, in advocating decisive action in the part of the state committee, and the splendid publication justly merits in the following manner over action of the committee:

**Traitors Receive a Just Rebuke.**  
Dixie has scored another victory. For four months in every issue among the newspapers of Florida that the state democratic executive committee do its duty to the democracy where he will speak Thursday night before the Railroad Business Association and the Motion Picture Board of Trade. He will leave New York at midnight Thursday to return here. Detailed arrangements for the middle western trip, which opens at Pittsburgh January 28th, were completed yesterday.

Except at a breakfast in St. Louis, all of his addresses will be delivered before public meetings.

Nature has placed nothing so high that virtuous effort can not reach it. —Quintus Rufus.

## FERTILIZER COMPANY

Completely Destroyed By Fire, Entailing a Loss of \$30,000. The Loss Was Completely Covered By Insurance.

The Tampa Fertilizer Company yesterday sustained a loss of \$30,000 when its building located at 35th street and Third avenue, was completely destroyed by fire. Mr. T. D. Fitzgerald, manager of the company, says the loss is completely covered by insurance.

## WILL YOUR CHILD HAVE AN EDUCATION?

Many boys and girls are kept out of college because they or their parents have not the necessary funds. Many take it for granted that an education is unattainable. This is especially true of country folk. P. H. Rolfs, dean of the University of Florida College of Agriculture, states that it is possible for every farm boy or girl to go to college. The corn and canning clubs give this opportunity.

If club children start at the age of ten or twelve to accumulate a fund for schooling they can have enough to take them through by the time they are ready to go. Let them raise corn, pigs, poultry or any other farm product. Induce them to deposit the proceeds at interest. A small sum at compound interest will, in a few years, furnish the means of a college education. Parents of moderate means can help, not only by allowing children to join the clubs, but by making small deposits in their names. In this way children who would have been unable to do it otherwise, will gain the means of an education.

The common practice is to wait until the child has finished high school. The expenditure of three or four hundred dollars a year is too great for hundreds of families, and as a result the child stays at home. By systematic saving over a period of years, parents who could not afford \$50 a year for the purpose, can educate their children. Furthermore, the plan fosters the habit of saving in the child.

Hop, John Hagan, a member of the board of county commissioners from Charlotte Harbor, is transacting business in this city today.

Hon. A. C. Freeman left last night for Tampa to get a Studebaker automobile, for which he is county agent. Mr. Freeman recently sold one of these popular cars to Frank Washburn.

## W. J. BRYAN DENIES

The Report That He Will Follow in the Footsteps of President Wilson in His Campaign of Speech-Making On the Question of Preparedness.

Miami, Jan. 26.—William J. Bryan has issued a statement denying the published reports that he intended following in the wake of the president on his trip through the middle west, making a series of speeches in answer to those of the president on preparedness. He said he would remain in Miami until he left for Lincoln, Neb., on February 20 to attend a birthday dinner.

Mr. Bryan said he would make a few speeches on his way to Lincoln, but they would have no connection with the president, and his references to preparedness would be along the line of the addresses he delivered last fall. He added that the dates for these speeches were arranged before it was announced that the president would make his speaking tour.

## WATCH FOR GUMMOSIS IN CITRUS STOCK.

Indications are that gummosis will be troublesome this year in citrus groves. H. E. Stevens, plant pathologist to the University of Florida Experiment Station, has noticed cases at Weirsdale and East Lake, and has had reports of outbreaks at Crescent City and other places in south Florida.

The first appearance of the disease is a small crack in the bark with a later exudation of gum which oozes out in droplets. There is usually a small area of bark killed around the exudations. Dead, brownish water soaked tissue can be seen by scraping away the bark. In the later stages the areas gum copiously and the bark flakes, forming a scaly or ulcerated appearance. The disease is easily distinguished from foot rot because it is confined to parts above ground, the trunk and larger branches, and by the scaly or ulcerated areas.

Control consists of cutting out the affected tissues. This should be done before they become large, so that the disease may be prevented from spreading and a large wound avoided in the pruning. Cut into the healthy wood and leave no particle of diseased tissue. Paint the wound with some antiseptic, such as bordeaux paste or carbollinum. As an extra precaution paint the entire trunk with the material from the ground up to two or three feet high.

## REPUBLICAN LEADER SUPPORTS

The President On His Preparedness Views. Mr. Mann Thinks "It the Part of Wisdom to Prepare Ourselves for Any Possibility of Trouble That May Come."

Washington, Jan. 26.—Republican Leader Mann made a vigorous plea for preparedness in the house yesterday. Majority Leader Kitchin, fresh from a conference with President Wilson over the executive's preparedness plan, did not join in the general applause from both sides which followed Mr. Mann's remarks.

"It seems the part of wisdom for us to prepare ourselves for any possibility of trouble that may come," was the keynote of Mr. Mann's remarks.

Mr. Mann declared that the world today is in the worst condition that any living person has ever seen it, and predicted that it might be many years "before it is definitely determined whether one or the other, or neither side, can become master." He also scouted the permanency of a "paper peace."

"No one knows," he continued, "where the aggression on either side may lead us, perhaps not into this struggle, but into one which is the outcome of this."

(Continued on Last Page.)